

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02

SS-15 STR-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /125 W

-----047170 190558Z /14

R 181400Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2007

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

UNCLAS IZMIR 0022

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TU

SUBJECT: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ALIAGA REFINERY DISCUSSES FUEL
SITUATION AND SOVIET ROLE IN PLANT EXPANSION

1. SUMMARY. ALIAGA REFINERY DEPUTY DIRECTOR GOKSALTIK
CONFIRMED ON JANUARY 17 THAT THE REFINERY'S PRESENT PRODUCTION
CAPACITY OF 3.7 MILLION TONS PER YEAR WILL INCREASE TO
RK5 MILLION BY THE END OF 1978 THROUGH TURKISH EFFORTS AND 10
MILLION BY 1981 AS A RESULT OF SOVIET CONSTRUCTION. THE GOT
CHOSE THE USSR TO UNDERTAKE THE DOUBLING OF PLANT CAPACITY
LARGELY BECAUSE THE SOVIETS TENDERED THE LOWEST BID BY 50
PERCENT AND OFFERED TO ACCEPT PARTIAL PAYMENT BY BARTER

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GOKSALTIK MAINTAINED THAT THERE IS NO FUEL SHORTAGE IN THE
PLANT'S SERVICE AREA, BUT ONLY A DELIVERY AND DISTRIBUTION
PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JANUARY 17 CONGEN OFFICERS CALLED ON DOGAN GOKSALTIK,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IZMIR ALIAGA REFINERY. GOKSALTIK CONFIRMED
PUBLISHED REPORTS WHICH STATED THAT THE REFINERY'S PRESENT
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PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF 3.7 MILLION TONS PER YEAR WOULD INCREASE
TO 5 MILLION TONS BY THE END OF 1978 AND 10 MILLION TONS BY
1981. THE INITIAL 1.3 MILLION TON EXPANSION WILL BE A DOMESTIC
TURKISH UNDERTAKING, WHILE THE DOUBLING OF CAPACITY TO 10
MILLION TONS WILL BE A SOVIET AID PROJECT.

3. GOKSALTIK VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION ON THE SOVIET ROLE IN
THE FOUR-YEAR EXPANSION PROJECT. THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT LAST

MONTH'S JOINT SOVIET-TURKISH ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD UNDERTAKE THE PROJECT MERELY FORMALIZED AN AGREEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN REACHED EARLIER. ACCORDING TO GOKSALTIK, THE MAIN REASON WHY THE TURKS ACCEPTED THE SOVIET BID WAS THAT IT WAS BY FAR THE CHEAPEST WHICH THEY RECEIVED (HALF AGAIN AS CHEAP AS THE NEXT LOWEST BID), AND THAT THE SOVIETS WILL ACCEPT PART PAYMENT OF A BARTER BASIS. BOTH

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SOVIET EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICIANS WILL BE USED. IN AN INTERESTING ASIDE, HE NOTED THAT THE SOVIET EQUIPMENT WHICH IS ALREADY IN PLACE AT THE REFINERY IS CRUDER AND HEAVIER THAN ITS AMERICAN COUNTERPART, BUT HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING MORE RESISTANT TO THE FIRES WHICH SOMETIMES BREAK OUT DURING POWER OUTAGES.

4. GOKSALTIK SAID THAT THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF OIL AT THE REFINERY. TANKERS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE FROM IRAN, IRAQ AND LIBYA, AND THE REFINERY'S CRUDE OIL STORAGE TANKS ARE PRESENTLY FULL, CONTAINING A ONE-MONTH SUPPLY. THE BOTTLENECK, AND APPARENT SHORTAGE TO CONSUMERS, OCCURS IN DISTRIBUTION AND DELIVERY, BECAUSE THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH TANKER TRUCKS TO DELIVER THE REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TO END USERS ON A DEPENDABLE, UNINTERRUPTED BASIS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780028-0253
Format: TEL
From: IZMIR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3756941
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ALIAGA REFINERY DISCUSSES FUEL SITUATION AND SOVIET ROLE IN PLANT EXPANSION
TAGS: ENRG, TU, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/feb5cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014